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| Notice of Allowability | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 10/629,646 | NAMIKI, MITSURU | |
| | Examiner Amanda H. Merlino | Art Unit 2877 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to amendment filed 1/5/06.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 and 3-16.
3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some* c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

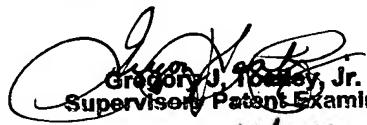
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.



Gregory J. Moody, Jr.
Supervisory Patent Examiner

17 Apr 06

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with John Darling on 4/17/06.

The application has been amended as follows:

- a) claim 2 has been canceled.
- b) on line 7 of claim 1, -- and the light deflecting unit is disposed near a front focal plane of the optical element to be tested -- has been add after " tested".

Reasons for Allowance

Claims 1 and 3-16 allowed.

Cornsweet (3,870,415) according to figure 3 teaches of a deflecting unit 3 that deflects collimated light from the light source unto a lens (156) wherein the lens (156) is NOT the lens to be tested.

As to claims 1, 3-7, and 9-16, the prior of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious a focal length measuring device comprising a light deflecting unit for deflecting collimated light so that the collimated light intersects an optical axis an angle and the collimated light is emitted, a light receiving unit which is disposed opposite to the light source unit so as to sandwich the light deflecting unit and wherein the light deflecting unit is disposed near a front focal plane of the optical

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element to be tested, in combination with the rest of the limitations of claim 1 and 3 respectively.

As to claims 8, the prior of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious a focal length measuring device comprising a light deflecting unit for deflecting collimated light, a light receiving unit which is disposed opposite to the light source unit so as to sandwich the light deflecting unit and wherein the light deflecting unit is a diffraction grating, in combination with the rest of the limitations the claim.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Drawings

The drawings were received on 1/5/06. These drawings are approved.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Amanda H Merlino whose telephone number is 571-272-2421. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday and Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gregory J Toatley, Jr. can be reached on 571-272-2800 ext 77. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Amanda H Merlino *ah*
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2877
April 17, 2006

Gregory J. Tooley Jr.
Gregory J. Tooley Jr.
Supervisory Patent Examiner
17 April 06